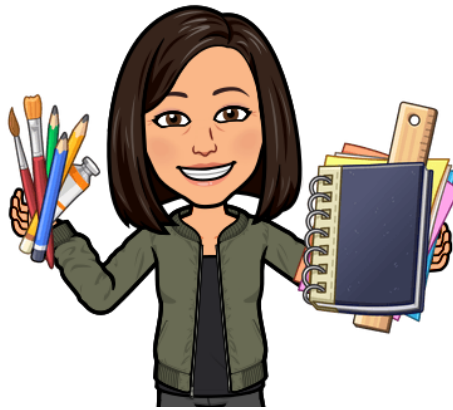


CLASSROOM UPDATES



AUGUST 21–SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

LITERACY

Reader's Workshop: Notice and Note

We begin our year by learning about the Notice and Note signposts during our Reader's Workshop. We will be reminded that good readers take the time to slow down their reading to notice and think about what characters are saying and doing. Authors leave us clues all the time. We just need to learn to notice the clues in order to think about the text more deeply. This week we learn the first two signposts—contrast and contradictions when a character does something that is unexpected, and a-ha moments when a character suddenly realizes something important. We will continue to learn about and practice the other signposts throughout the next two weeks—tough questions, words of the wiser, again and again, and memory moments.

As I sit in on goal setting conferences with each student over the next two weeks, many will set goals to read longer, more complex books this year. These reading signposts will help them get the most out of their reading experience. Being able to read quickly is always impressive, but if we aren't able to talk about the big ideas or moments in a book then we are only doing a small part of the job of a reader. Our classroom reading goal: Slow down as readers, notice what is happening in a story, and think about why.

Writer's Workshop: The Writing Community

This first unit of study is all about establishing a writing community. We share and discuss published books to help us get ideas for our own writing. We build our writing stamina by writing every day. We share our work with others. We listen and give feedback. These are the core principles of Being a Writer.

MATH IN FOCUS with MRS. McLOONE

Unit 1: Whole Numbers and the Four Operations

In this first unit, the students will be reviewing place value, multiplying and dividing by two-digit numbers, and learning about the order of operations.

BIG IDEAS MATH with MRS. CIONI

Unit 1: Numerical Expressions and Factors

We will begin the year by reviewing whole number operations, powers and exponents, and order of operations. In addition, we will be learning about prime factorization, greatest common factors, and least common multiples.

SCIENCE

Earth in Space

Science will kick off with students finding evidence to prove the Earth is round. Next week we will be exploring gravity on Earth. An extension activity will find us traveling through the solar system to compare gravity on other planets and moons.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✓ August 21 Happy Birthday, Ed!
- ✓ August 23 Parent Night 6:00–7:15 PM (**6:45–7:15 for Grades 3–5)
- ✓ August 25 Back to School Bash 6:00–7:30 PM
- ✓ August 29 Band lessons begin
- ✓ August 30 MAP Testing (Reading) 1:15–3:00 PM
- ✓ September 4 No school: Labor Day
- ✓ September 5 MAP Testing (Math) 1:15–3:00 PM

If at any time you or your child have any questions regarding this information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Mrs. Cioni

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